

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 21, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 5, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 676

Introduced by Senator Ashburn
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Karnette)

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 14105.16 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 676, as amended, Ashburn. Medi-Cal: pharmacy reimbursement.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services, pursuant to which medical benefits, including prescription drugs, are provided to public assistance recipients and certain other low-income persons.

~~This bill would provide that the department shall ensure that medications provided to Medi-Cal recipients for intravenous or infusion drug therapy shall be reimbursed in a manner that is consistent with the services provided to ensure that patients receiving these services continue to receive appropriate care and continuity of their drug regimen.~~

This bill would authorize the department to establish per diem or bundled reimbursement rates for pharmacies that provide home infusion supplies and services for eligible pharmacies.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure individual access to appropriate home infusion services, promote home- and community-based care, support provider compliance with all applicable state and federal requirements, and encourage administrative efficiency in the provision of medications to Medi-Cal recipients for intravenous or infusion drug therapy.~~

~~SEC. 2.~~

SECTION 1. Section 14105.16 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

~~14105.16. (a) The department shall ensure that medications provided to Medi-Cal recipients for intravenous or infusion drug therapy shall be reimbursed in a manner that is consistent with the services provided to ensure that patients receiving these services continue to receive appropriate care and continuity of their drug regimen.~~

~~(b) The department may establish per diem or bundled reimbursement rates for pharmacies that provide home infusion supplies and services. *The per diem or bundled reimbursement rate shall be budget neutral.* Only pharmacies that comply with Sections 4127 and 4127.1 of the Business and Professions Code may be determined to be eligible for reimbursement rates established under this subdivision.~~

~~(c)~~

~~(b) In implementing this section the department shall consult with pharmacies providing home infusion supplies and services with respect to all of the following:~~

~~(1) Notifying the provider representatives of the proposed change.~~

~~(2) Scheduling at least one meeting to discuss the change.~~

~~(3) Obtaining actual costs from providers regarding supplies, services, and administrative costs.~~

~~(4) Allowing for written input regarding the change.~~

~~(5) Providing 30-day advance notice to providers on the implementation and effective date of the change.~~

~~(d)~~

~~(c) Changes made in the Medi-Cal program pursuant to this section are exempt from the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340)),~~

1 Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11370), and Chapter 5
2 (commencing with Section 11500), of Part 1 of Division 3 of
3 Title 2 of the Government Code), and shall not be subject to the
4 review and approval of the Office of Administrative Law.

O